# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# AGRICULTURE
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3598
ANSWERED ON:07.04.2003
AGRI-MARKETING PROGRAMME
KAILASH MEGHWAL

**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:**

(a) the programmes being implemented by this ministry under Agri-marketing for farmers and criteria for providing loan, grants and financial aid alongwith details of contribution of State Governments therein; and

(b) the funds allocated in Rajasthan under Agri-marketing programme during last five years, since April 01, 1998, year-wise, programme/scheme-wise?

## Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a): The Ministry is implementing the following programmes for the development of agricultural marketing in the country:

In order to increase the storage capacity of the farmers in the rural areas, a Central SectorScheme of Capital Investment Subsidy for Construction/Renovation/Expansion of RuralGodowns is being implemented by this Ministry. Under this Scheme, the entrepreneurs are free to construct/renovate rural godowns outside the municipal corporation area anywhere in the country on the basis of their commercial judgement. 25% back-ended subsidy on the capital cost of the project is provided by the Central Government and in the case of entrepreneurs belonging to North-Eastern States, tribal and hilly areas and SC/ST, thesubsidy provided is at a higher rate of 33.33%. Out of the total cost of the project, 50% of the project cost has to be raised from Banks/Financial Institutions as term loans and remaining 25% is to be borne by the entrepreneurs. No contribution is required to be made by the State Government under this Scheme.

Under the Central Sector Scheme of `Agricultural Marketing Information Network`, anationwide information network is being established for speedy collection and dissemination of market data for its efficient and timely utilization and to ensure flow of regular and reliable data to the farmers, traders and consumers to derive maximum advantage out of their sale and purchases etc. The computer facilities and Internet connectivity have been provided to important agricultural markets in the country and Offices of the State Agricultural Marketing Departments/Boards at State Headquarters.The markets are selected in consultation with the State Governments. The State Governments are required toprovide infrastructure facilities and manpower to establish information centres . No financial contribution is required from the State Governments under this scheme.

A Technology Mission for development of Horticulture in the North Eastern Statesincluding Sikkim with a component for development of markets/State Grading Laboratories (SGLs) under Mini Mission-III has been set-up since 2001-02.Under the scheme, assistance is being provided to the North Eastern State Governments for development ofWholesale Markets, Rural Primary Markets/ Apni Mandies and SGLs.

(b) National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) has sanctioned 22 projects forconstruction of new rural godowns with a capacity of 1850 tonnes in Rajasthan during 2002-03.

Under the scheme of Agricultural Marketing Information network, hardware computerfacilities have been provided to Rajasthan Agricultural Marketing Board, Director of AgriculturalMarketing, Government of Rajasthan and 11 Agricultural Produce Marketing Committees (APMCs)during the year 2000-01. During the year 2001-02, 37 markets in the State have also been provided with computers and peripherials.